

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are currently pending in the application; all claims have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,625,451 (La Medica).

La Medica teaches a mobile communication system with user-selectable modes of operation. The modes of operation refer to system selection, such as choosing a specific roaming network from a list, choosing a home network, or choosing to scan for a list of available networks.

The present invention provides a method for operating a dual-mode mobile terminal by voice, with voice commands, also known as speech recognition. The dual-mode terminal communicates in digital and analog modes. According to the invention, voice data, used for recognizing a particular voice command, only needs to be stored in digital format, and not in both the digital and analog format because a vocoder dynamically switches to the needed format. When a voice command to invoke a specific function ("voice function") is input to the mobile terminal, it determines whether the voice function requires a digital or analog format and switches the vocoder accordingly.

"Voice function" in the claims is not referring to communication of voice, or speech, between mobile terminals. Rather "voice function" refers to the use of a voice to invoke a function in the mobile terminal. Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has misinterpreted the term to mean voice communication.

In rejecting Claims 1, 5 and 6, the Examiner cites Col. 10, lines 49-66 and Col. 12, lines 23-35 of La Medica. Neither section teaches or suggests speech recognition. Col. 10, lines 49-66 state:

The mobile stations 3 and 23, the base stations 11 and 25, and the MSCs 15 and 27 implement one or more standard air-link interfaces. In the preferred embodiment, the wireless telephone network 1 supports dual-mode services. Although not shown separately, *such a dual-mode network includes wireless telephone components that output analog telephone signals for transmission according to an analog wireless protocol (e.g., AMPS) as well as digital wireless system components that operate in accord with a digital wireless protocol, for*

example the CDMA protocol IS-95. The base stations may provide both types of services. Alternatively, the network may comprise base stations that send and receive voice and signaling traffic according to the prescribed analog protocol as well as digital base stations that utilize the digital wireless protocol. Each dual-mode MSC 15 typically includes a switching subsystem for analog telephone services, a switching subsystem for digital telephone services, and a control subsystem. [emphasis added]

This section is merely describing a dual-mode network, which is a communication network that uses both analog and digital data formats. This section is not talking about voice function – functions invoked by voice command – in a dual-mode mobile terminal.

Col. 12, lines 23-35 state:

FIG. 2 shows the major functional elements of an exemplary implementation of a typical handset or other mobile radiotelephone station 3. The exemplary handset is essentially a dual-mode (digital and analog service) type wireless telephone, as commonly used in cellular type networks. Those skilled in the art will recognize that concepts of the invention could easily be implemented in single-mode stations for any of the common analog or digital cellular or PCS type telephone services or in future deployed tri-mode (digital, analog and PCS) type customer stations. In each case, the telephone 3 is capable of implementing the system select control operations according to an embodiment of the present invention. [emphasis added]

This section lacks any discussion or mention of voice function in a dual-mode mobile terminal as well. It only talks about the type of handset that La Medica may use, namely a dual-mode phone, without any discussion about voice-invoked functions at all.

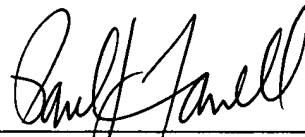
Claims 1, 5 and 6 all recite “A method for operating a voice function including speaker’s speech recognition and voice output of stored information in a mobile terminal ...” The voice function is defined in the claims as speech recognition and output of stored information, i.e. a recorded voice memo, and allows the use of speech, or voice, to invoke functions in an electronic device. It follows that the claims do not recite voice communication, but rather voice commands, which are not taught by the cited art.

The present invention does not merely relate to a method for switching an operation mode of a vocoder by compulsion in an analog communication or a digital communication, but relates to a method for performing functions such as voice registration, an output of a voice signal, and a recognition of a speaker’s voice regardless of communication modes. Specifically,

the present invention provides a method for switching the vocoder of a mobile terminal into a packet mode so that a speech recognition function can be performed even while the mobile terminal is operating the voice function in the analog mode. In particular, in the present invention, the vocoder is switched into the packet mode so that a voice inputted in the analog mode can be compared with a voice data in a compressed packet format stored in a memory. However, La Medica does not disclose the above features. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) of Claims 1, 5 and 6 be withdrawn.

In view of the preceding remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims, namely, Claims 1-6, are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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